

J. H. Caldwells.

THE
LEEDS INSTITUTE
OF
Science, Art, and Literature.

HISTORICAL SKETCH,

1824-1900.

Leeds :

GOODALL AND SUDDICK, LTD., PRINTERS, COOKRIDGE STREET.
--
1901.

PRICE TWOPENCE.

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TAIT, ARTHUR,

THE LEEDS INSTITUTE.

THE Leeds Mechanics' Institution was among the first of its kind to be established in this country. It originated in the year 1824, when two rooms, one for the library and the other for the classes, were taken in a house at the back of Park Row, on part of the site now occupied by Messrs. Marshall and Snelgrove's premises.

The promoters of the Leeds Institution undertook to supply at a cheap rate, to the different classes of the community, instruction in the various branches of science, which are of practical application to their trades or occupations, by the following means, viz.:—Circulation of scientific books, classes in the higher branches of Arithmetic, Mathematics, Mechanical Drawing, and the principles of Mechanics and Chemistry, public lectures, and the constant display of models and machines, scientific apparatus and instruments. This liberal programme was carried out in such a manner as to cause Lord Brougham to cite Leeds Mechanics' Institution, in his well-known pamphlet, as an example to be followed by other towns.

The first President was Mr. Benjamin Gott, the grandfather of the present Bishop of Truro.

The Leeds Literary Institution was established in 1834, in Commercial Buildings, with the object of supplying books for popular reading, which were not included in the library of the Mechanics' Institution.

An Exhibition held in 1839, in the Music Hall, realised £1,825. and with this sum, and donations afterwards received, it was decided to purchase the premises in South Parade, built for a Hall of Science, and which are now occupied by the Young Men's Christian Association.

The Mechanics' and the Literary Institutions had a separate existence until the year 1842, when an amalgamation was effected.

Mr. Edward Baines, senr., was the first President of the United Institution.

Between the years 1846 and 1858, quite a galaxy of eminent men took part in the proceedings of the Annual Soirées. Among them may be mentioned, in the order of their attendance, the following, viz.:—George Stephenson, Charles Dickens, Lord Mahon, Earl of Carlisle, Dr. Smiles, Lord John Russell, George Cruickshank, Sir Henry Cole, Dr. Layard, Sir Edward Bulwer Lytton, Lord Brougham, Lord Goderick (now the Marquis of Ripon), Sir Roderick Murchison, Professor Owen, Professor Phillips, and Admiral Fitzroy.

Lord Palmerston took the chair at the Annual Meeting in 1860, when the necessity of securing more adequate premises was discussed. The meeting closed with promises amounting to £5,000, and an additional £5,000 was soon afterwards secured.

The foundation stone of the present building, which was designed by Mr. Cuthbert Brodrick, the architect of the Leeds Town Hall, was laid in 1865, and three years later the members and students were in possession of one of the finest and most complete buildings of its kind in the country. The total cost amounted to nearly £30,000, and with the funds in hand, together with those realised from the sale of the old building, as well as from a Grand Bazaar held in 1868, two-thirds of this large amount was paid.

The Yorkshire Exhibition of Arts and Crafts was held in 1875 in order to liquidate the debt of £10,000. The Old Cloth Hall was taken for the purpose, and special buildings were erected on the land adjoining. The Exhibition was opened by His Royal Highness

the Duke of Edinburgh, and its success was beyond all expectations, the handsome sum of £7,009 being realised. The number of attendances of season ticket holders was 210,000; admissions on payment, etc., 430,000; and the total receipts, £32,000.

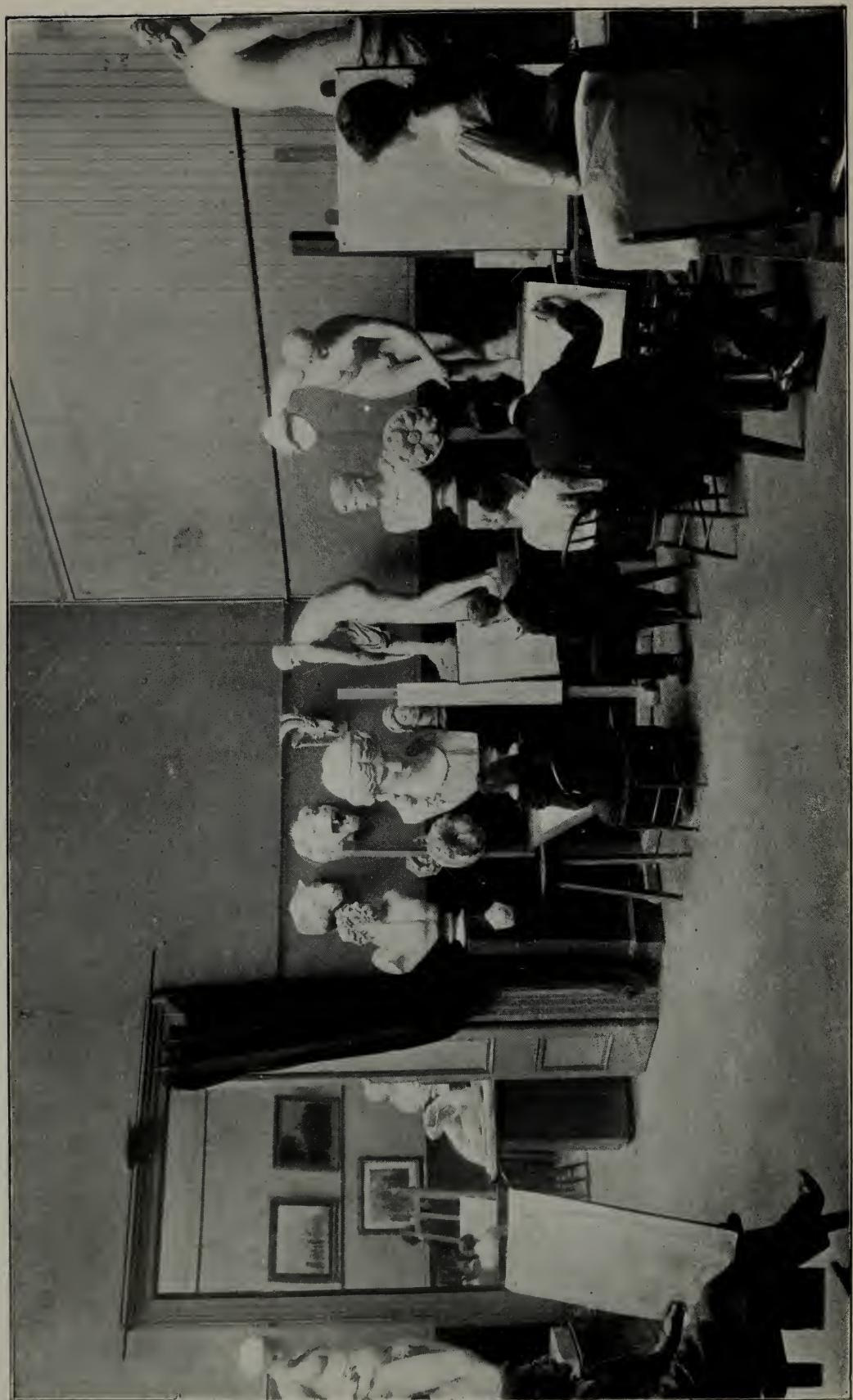
In 1867 Sir Joshua Flitch visited Yorkshire on behalf of the Schools Enquiry Commission, and singled out the Institution's schools as "one of the best type of modern secondary Schools."

The accommodation now available was in advance of the requirements of the town. The whole of the rooms were well filled in the evenings, but during the day complaint was made that they were not half occupied. The Committee, therefore, reported that they would be exceedingly glad to find the whole of the Art and Science Rooms occupied during the day if students could be found willing to take advantage of them, but they thought it could not be accomplished. The time, however, was not far distant when every room was required for day as well as evening work, and after suffering for some years through inadequate accommodation, the new annex known as the Leeds Boys' Modern School and the Leeds Technical School was opened in 1889 by Sir James Kitson, Bart., at a cost of £7,000.

A Bazaar, held in 1889 under the patronage of Her Majesty the Queen, realised the sum of £1,953 towards the Extension Fund.

LEEDS SCHOOL OF ART.

The School of Art was established as a Government School of Design in 1846, which was shortly after the Government regulations were adopted. It was assisted by the Council of the School of Design,



THE ANTIQUE ROOM

London, who furnished examples of Art, and contributed £80 per annum to the salary of the first master, Mr. C. L. Nursey, pupil of Sir David Wilkie. Classes in Geometrical, Perspective, Ornamental, Figure, and Landscape Drawing had, however, been held for some years prior to the establishment of the School, and in 1845 were attended by 63 pupils.

The School at once took a foremost place among the Art Schools of this country, and that honoured position it has continued to hold up to the present time.

Between the years 1857 and 1869, the Leeds School was a great centre for the diffusion of Art knowledge in all the principal towns of the West Riding. In the former year there were 21 public schools and institutions, with over 1,300 pupils, affiliated with the School. These branch schools were situated in Wakefield, Halifax, and Ackworth, as well as in Leeds.

In 1858 a school at Keighley was affiliated, and in 1859, at the special request of the Science and Art Department, schools at Bradford and Huddersfield became affiliated. In 1864 the number of pupils under instruction in the schools affiliated with the Leeds School was 7,430, who obtained 41 medals in the National Competitions. Owing to changes in the Government regulations the numbers then began to decline, and after the new building was opened in 1868, the Committee found it necessary to confine the attention of the Head Master to the Central School, one reason no doubt being that the branch schools were situated at inconvenient distances.

John Ruskin's interest in the School dates from the year 1859, when he presented one of the most exquisite gems ever produced by that celebrated painter, Wm. Hunt. The affection of the students for their old friend

was invariably shown at his birthday, when a telegram of warmest congratulations was sent to Coniston.

The record of the School for over half-a-century has been one of which any town might well be proud. In 1900, six silver medals and seven bronze medals were won by the students, and the number of successes in Design was such as to place the School third in the provinces. One student was bracketed first in the United Kingdom for this subject, while one was bracketed third, and two fifth. Four Queen's Prizes for Design were taken, out of a total of fourteen available for the whole of the United Kingdom.

The number of individual students in 1900 was 575.

The necessity of making better provision for the School of Art was felt by the Committee for some years prior to 1900, when they decided to invite competitive designs for a new building, the cost not to exceed £10,000, a substantial portion of which the Committee hope to raise by means of donations. The design by Messrs. Bedford and Kitson, of Leeds, was selected on the recommendation of the adjudicator, Mr. W. H. Bidlake, M.A., of Birmingham, in the spring of 1901, and an early start will be made with the work.

The new building will have frontages in Vernon Street, Percival Street, and Cookridge Street. In character the building will be quite plain, but on the west elevation, facing Cookridge Street, provision will be made for a panel, which will be filled in by the students in glass mosaic. In the basement provision will be made for classes in the applied arts, including plaster work, repoussé, enamel, marble and stone carving, wood carving and cabinet work, pottery, painting and decorating, lithography, and bookbinding. On the ground floor there will be a light and shade class room, 52 feet by 24 feet; a model and freehand class room, 32 feet by

24 feet 6 inches; and a lecture room capable of seating 100 students. The first floor will afford accommodation for a painting class room, 38 feet by 24 feet 6 inches; an architectural class room, 24 feet 6 inches by 24 feet; a design room and library, 34 feet by 33 feet; and an elementary modelling room, 26 feet by 24 feet 6 inches. On the second floor there will be the life room, 33 feet by 37 feet; the antique room, 48 feet by 33 feet; the life modelling room, 35 feet 6 inches by 24 feet 6 inches; the master's room, and a conservatory for plants to be used in the School.

The accommodation of the New School will be double that of the old building.

HEAD MASTERS OF THE LEEDS SCHOOL OF ART.

G. L. Nursey	...	...	1845—1851
Thomas Gaunt	...	..	1851—1854
J. C. Swallow	...	...	1854—1856
John White	...	...	1856—1858
C. Ryan	...	...	1858—1860
Walter Smith	...	...	1860—1869
Dr. R. Campbell Puckett	...		1869—1874
A. Stevenson	...	...	1874—1889
Haywood Rider, A.R.C.A.(Lond.)			1889—

LEEDS TECHNICAL SCHOOL.

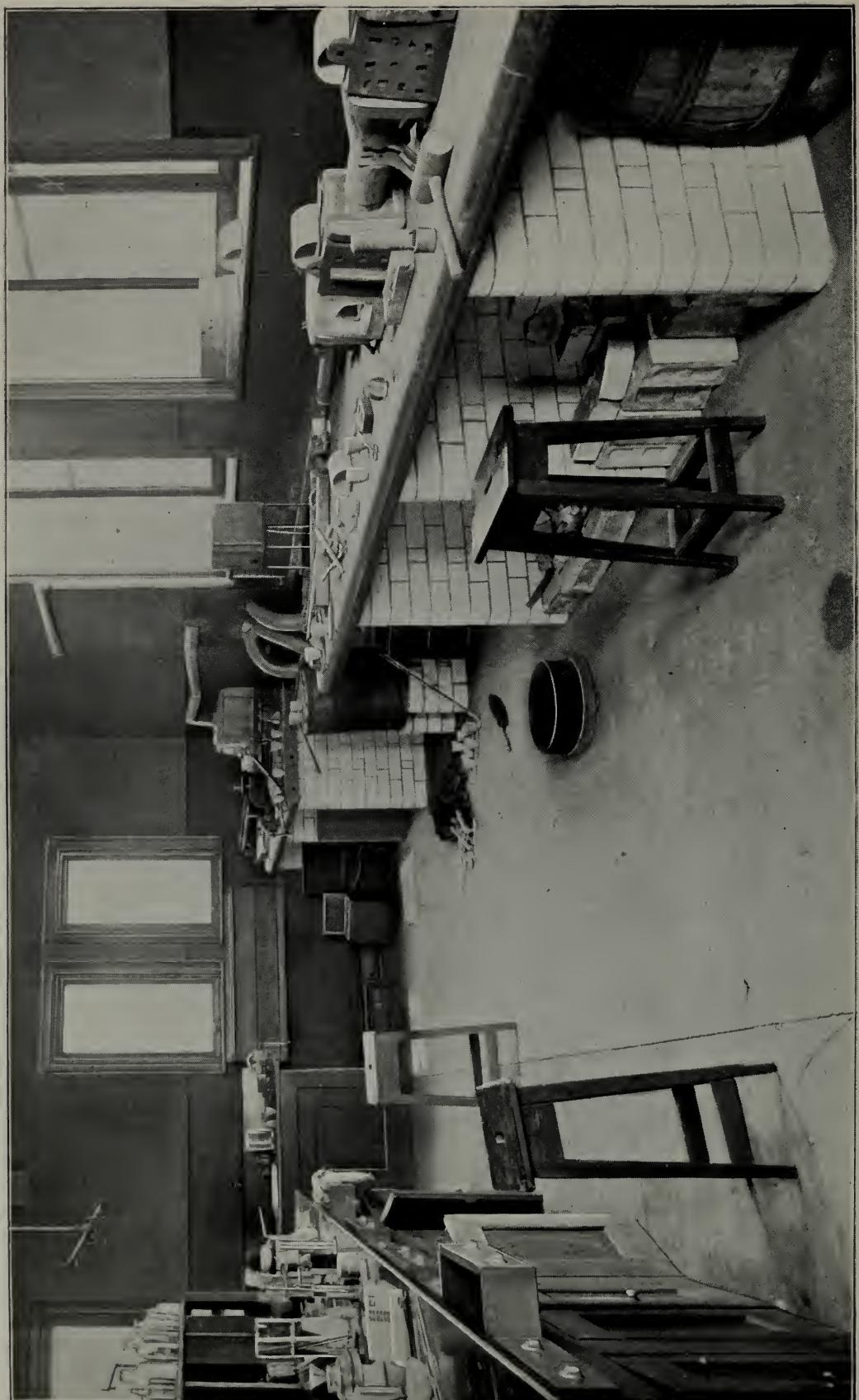
The Technical School dates from the establishment of the Mechanics' Institution in 1824, when classes having a practical bearing upon the trades of Leeds were inaugurated. Chemistry occupied a prominent position from the commencement. The first public lecture was given in 1825 on "The Utility of Chemistry," by Mr. Lockwood, the schoolmaster. In



THE CHEMICAL LABORATORY.

1829 Mr. John Murray delivered twelve lectures on Chemistry and two on Electricity, and during the following session Dr. Warwick gave four lectures on "The General Principles of Chemistry." In 1831 the class in Chemistry more than realised the expectations of the Committee, and the report, in referring to the instruction, says :— "It is given to each individual in the process of manufacturing and analyzing such articles as are used in his particular branch of business, and the advantages which this class offers to the dyer, painter, potter, tanner, &c., need only to be made known to be properly appreciated." Mr. Huggon was responsible for the Chemistry classes for nearly twenty years. On his retirement in 1860 he was succeeded by Mr. George Ward (now President of the Institute), under whose direction the classes in Chemistry developed into an important department, which included Organic and Inorganic Chemistry and Metallurgy. For twenty-three years Mr. Ward ungrudgingly gave his evenings to this work. On his retirement in 1883, Mr. A. J. Read succeeded him. From 1884 to 1886 Mr. James Monckman, D.Sc., was the Chemistry master. In the latter year Mr. J. Wertheimer, B.A., B.Sc., was appointed head master of the School of Science, and on his appointment to the position of principal at the Merchant Venturers' College, Bristol, in 1890, he was succeeded by Mr. Sidney J. Harris, M.Sc., who held the office until his death in 1897, when the present head master, Mr. R. E. Barnett, B.Sc. (Lond.), A.R.C.S., was appointed.

The Chemical Laboratory of to-day has accommodation for 80 students, the Chemical Lecture Theatre will accommodate 200 students, and both are among the finest in the North of England.



THE METALLURGICAL LABORATORY.

There are also Physical, Metallurgical, Botanical, and Plumbing Laboratories, and a Carpenters' Workshop.

The School, aided by an Annual Grant from the Leeds City Council, has developed considerably during recent years. In 1891, when this Grant was first made, there were 702 students in attendance at the various classes, compared with 1,570 in 1900.

The advanced character of the instruction given is best shown in the successes of the students who gained at the examinations in 1900 the following awards :— 1 National Scholarship, 2 Bronze Medals, 22 Honours Certificates, 163 Advanced Science Certificates, and 61 Ordinary Certificates for Technological subjects.

The COMMERCIAL EVENING SCHOOL was reorganised in 1898, and is doing good work by its classes, which have been arranged to meet the requirements of clerks and youths in business houses. In 1900 there were 664 students in attendance at the various classes, and 25·7 per cent. of that number took modern languages. Mr. W. H. Barber, B.A., is the Head Master of this Department.

The Music classes were organised into a SCHOOL OF MUSIC in 1898, and 61 students were in attendance at the end of 1900. The Principal is Mr. J. W. Fitton, Mus.Bac., F.R.C.O.

LEEDS BOYS' MODERN SCHOOL

The Leeds Boys' Modern School was established in the year 1845, to supply a want that was felt among many of the leading business men of the city for a secondary school in which would be given an education of a more mathematical and practical character than that of the Grammar School. It was first called the



THE LEEDS BOYS' MODERN SCHOOL AND THE LEEDS TECHNICAL SCHOOL

Mathematical and Commercial School, and did not receive its present name until 1885. The Committee responsible for its formation contained such well-known Leeds names as Ed. Baines, Junr. (afterwards Sir Edward Baines, M.P., of the *Leeds Mercury*), Rev. Chas. Wicksteed, F. Baines, Joshua Buckton, James Kitson (father of Sir James Kitson, Bart.), and Dr. Smiles. From the first, Mathematics occupied an important place in the curriculum; French and Latin were taught, but no Greek, except to boys requiring it for Scholarship examinations; and Elementary Science and Drawing were taken throughout. For many years its best boys headed the Mathematical lists in the Cambridge Local Examinations, and won scholarships at Clifton and Malvern Colleges, from whence many proceeded to Oxford and Cambridge. Perhaps the most distinguished of these has been Mr. H. H. Turner, F.R.S., the Savilian Professor of Astronomy at Oxford, who, while at Trinity College, Cambridge, was Second Wrangler, Sheepshanks' Exhibitioner, Smith's Prizeman, and Fellow of his College, from which he was appointed First Assistant to the Astronomer Royal.

The School numbered 72 pupils at the close of 1845. In 1900 the number was 402, the highest on record.

HEAD MASTERS.

S. Twist	...	...	...	1845—1847
Dr. Bedford	...	...	...	1847—1854
J. W. White	...	...	...	1855—1856
D. B. D'Arcy	...	...	...	1856—1857
H. E. Kincaid, M.A.	...	...	...	1857—1859
T. Horsman, B.A.	...	...	...	1860—1885
A. Barker, M.A., B.Sc.	...	...	...	1885—1890
W. H. Barber, B.A.	...	...	...	1891—



THE CARPENTERS' WORKSHOP.

LEEDS GIRLS' MODERN SCHOOL.

The Leeds Girls' Modern School was established in 1854 as the Leeds Educational Institution. In settling the course of instruction, the Directors were guided very largely by the improved system of the Boys' School, which had already made a name for itself. The elements of Natural Philosophy were taught on the same sound principles, and by the same masters as in the Boys' School. Freehand Drawing and Music were both a part of the general course of the comprehensive scheme of instruction, which was adapted in accordance with the views entertained by the most enlightened educationalists of the day. At the present time the School holds a high place among the girls' schools of Yorkshire, and the successes of its students are always of a gratifying character.

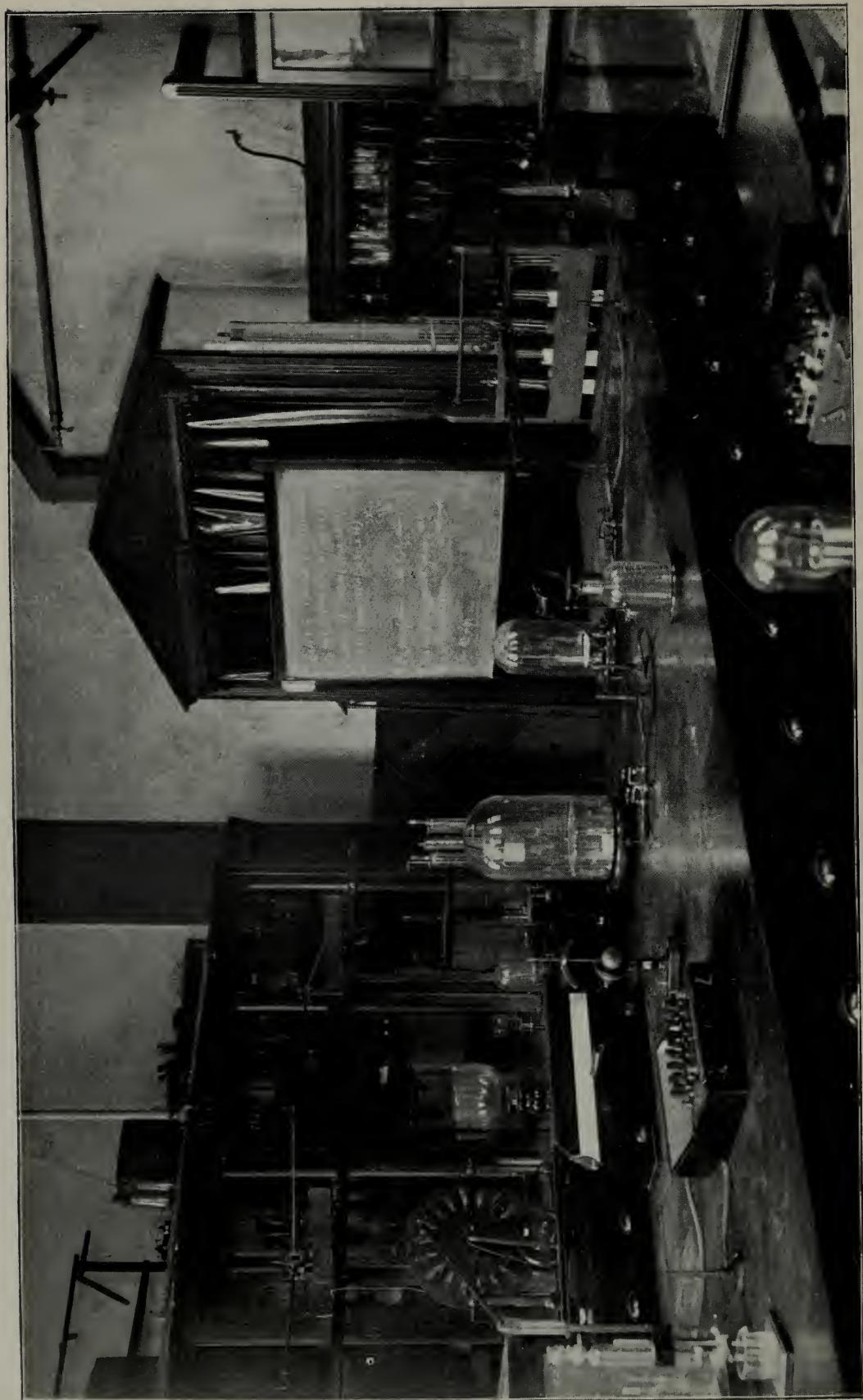
Every effort is made to train the pupils for the practical business and duties of life. The curriculum is now arranged in accordance with the Annual Syllabus published by the University of Oxford for the regulation of the examination of girls. The pupils are prepared for the London University Matriculation, and for the Oxford Local Examinations. The junior form, consisting of a class for boys and girls under seven years of age, is taught under the Kindergarten system.

At the end of 1854 there were 22 pupils. In 1900 the number was the highest recorded, viz.: - 254.

HEAD MISTRESSES.

Miss Dorrington	...	...	1854—1855
Miss Bonnyman	...	...	1855—1858
Miss Macnaughton	...	...	1858—1860
Miss Crowther	...	..	1860—1863
Miss Knowles	...	...	1863—1864
Miss Ash	...	...	1864—1894
Miss Garbutt, M.A. (Lond.)	...		1894—

THE PHYSICAL LABORATORY.



LIBRARY AND LECTURES.

The Library contains about 26,000 volumes of well-selected books. The adoption of the open-access system has been a great boon to the members, as it enables them to examine the books on the shelves before deciding which to borrow.

For over fifty years the lectures and entertainments have been an important feature of the Institute, and some of the most eminent statesmen, men of letters, and scientists of this country have occupied the platform. The lectures are given in the Albert Hall, and members and subscribers are admitted free of charge to the whole course, which now consists of twenty-one lectures and entertainments each session.

ALTERATION IN THE NAME OF THE INSTITUTION.

For some years it was felt that the name, viz.:—“The Leeds Mechanics’ Institution and Literary Society,” did not sufficiently describe the operations of the Institution, and a new one, more expressive of its work was, therefore, adopted at the Annual Meeting of Members, viz.:—“The Leeds Institute of Science, Art, and Literature,” with the following departments:—

- The Library and Reading Room
- The Leeds Girls’ Modern School.
- The Leeds Boys’ Modern School.
- The Leeds School of Art.
- The Leeds Technical School.

Two other departments were added in 1898, viz.: -

- The Leeds School of Music:
- The Commercial Evening School.

STATISTICS.

The number of members at the end of the first year in the history of the Mechanics' Institution was 492.

In 1842, prior to the union of the two institutions, the Mechanics' Institution had 404 members and the Literary Institution 293. At the close of the year the total for the united Institutions reached 750.

In 1863, when the present building was opened, the membership stood at 2,011; the Day Schools had 434 students, the School of Art 150, and the Evening Classes 226, giving a total of 2,821.

Between the years 1868 and 1889, the total number of members and students did not alter very materially. For several years the membership decreased, owing probably to the introduction of the Free Library system, but this decrease was more than counterbalanced by an increase of students.

In 1889, the number of members and students was 2,668, but since that year rapid strides have been made in every department of the Institute, and from 2,668 the total in 1900 had grown to 4,668.

During the last three years the number of members and students shows an increase of 1,207, and the income an increase of £2,679, the total income for 1900 being £11,588.

In 1900, the number of members and individual students was as follows :—

Members	...	...	...	2,007
Leeds School of Art	...	...	575	
Leeds Technical School	...	...	925	
Leeds Boys' Modern School	...	...	402	
Leeds Girls' Modern School	...	...	254	
Commercial Evening School	...	...	308	
Leeds School of Music	...	...	61	
Teachers' Classes	...	...	136	
Total	...	...	4,668	

PRESIDENTS.

Benjamin Gott	...	...	1824
<i>(First President of Mechanics' Institution.)</i>			
Edward Baines	...	...	1842
<i>(First President of Mechanics' Institution and Literary Society.)</i>			
Rev. Chas. Wicksteed	...	...	1843—1844
Edward Baines, junr.	...	...	1845—1846
John Hope Shaw	...	...	1847—1848
Thomas Wilson	...	...	1849—1850
James Kitson	...	...	1851—1852
W. St. J. Wheelhouse	...	...	1853—1854
Rev. G. W. Conder	...	...	1855—1856
James Kitson	...	...	1857
John Botterill	...	...	1858—1859
John Hope Shaw	...	...	1860—1861
J. D. Luccock	...	...	1862—1870
Thomas Dawson	...	...	1871—1887
J. S. Loe	...	...	1888—1892
Joseph Hepworth	...	...	1893—1897
George Ward	...	...	1898—

VICE-PRESIDENTS.

Wm. West	...	...	1842—1843
Rev. Chas. Wicksteed	...	...	1842
Edward Baines, Junr.	...	...	1843—1844
Rev. Thos. Scales	...	...	1844—1846
Rev. Chas. Wicksteed	...	...	1845—1846
Edward Baines, Junr.	...	...	1847—1848
Thomas Wilson	...	...	1847—1848
Jas. Kitson	...	...	1849—1850
R. Church	...	...	1849—1850
Thomas Wilson	...	...	1851—1852
George Hyde	...	...	1851
W. St. J. Wheelhouse	...	...	1852
Jas. Kitson	...	...	1853—1854
C. Kemplay	...	...	1853
J. C. Barrett	...	...	1854—1855
W. St. J. Wheelhouse	...	...	1855—1856

VICE-PRESIDENTS—*Continued.*

J. W. H. Richardson	...	1856—1857
Rev. G. W. Conder	...	1857—1858
James Hole ...	...	1858—1859
Rev. W. F. Hook, D.D.	...	1859
J. J. Cousins...	...	1860—1862
G. E. Donisthorpe ...	...	1860
James Hole ...	...	1861
J. H. Shaw ...	...	1862—1864
F. W. Tetley	...	1863—1864
John Taylor ...	...	1865—1873
Thomas Dawson	...	1865—1870
Robert Addyman	...	1871—1872
Samuel Hick	...	1873—1874
Samuel Walley	...	1874—1875
J. D. Woodcock	...	1875—1882
J. S. Loe ...	...	1876—1887
Wm. Child ...	...	1883—1889
Joseph Arnott	...	1888—
John Eastwood	...	1890—1896
George Ward	...	1897
Joseph Hepworth	...	1898
J. H. Wurtzburg	...	1899—1900
Thomas Fairley	...	1901—

HONORARY SECRETARIES.

Joshua Todd	...	...	1824
<i>(First Secretary of Mechanics' Institution.)</i>			
James Kitson	...	...	1842—1844
<i>(First Secretary of Mechanics' Institution and Literary Society.)</i>			
H. J. Marcus	...	...	1842—1845
A. Lupton, Junr.	...	...	1845—1846
James Kitson	...	...	1846—1848
R. G. Horton	...	...	1847—1849
R. W. Hamilton	...	...	1849
John Bingley	...	...	1850—1852
Wm. Eggleston	...	...	1850
John Wager ...	...	...	1851—1852

HONORARY SECRETARIES--*Continued.*

Thomas Dawson	...	...	1853—1854
John Barnes...	...	...	1853
J. W. Dickinson	...	...	1854—1855
John Taylor...	...	...	1855—1856
James Hole ...	...	...	1856
F. W. Kitson	..	...	1857
Isaiah Dixon	...	...	1857—1858
W. J. Neild ...	...	...	1858—1891
James Kitson, Junr.		...	1859
A. J. Williams, Junr.		...	1860
Henry Wardman	...	...	1861—1870
F. Haigh ...	...	...	1871—1873
Wm. Todd ...	...	...	1874—1878
E. W. Chatwin	...	...	1879—1880
C. England ...	...	...	1881—1891
John Pearce ...	...	...	1892—1897
F. E. Clarke...	...	...	1892—
E. H. Hepper	...	...	1898—

TREASURERS.

W. B. Holdsworth	...	...	1842
J. D. Luccock	...		1843—1846
Hamer Stansfield	...	...	1847—1852
W. Blanshard	...	...	1853
Henry Oxley	...	...	1854—1859
W. B. Denison	...	...	1860—1886
Wm. Beckett, M.P.	...		1887—1890
E. W. Beckett, M.P.	...		1891—

SECRETARIES.

T. Hodgson	...	...	1843
Thos. Hogg	...	...	1843—1844
Dr. J. W. Hudson	...	...	1844—1847
John Nayler	...	...	1847—1849
W. H. J. Traice	...	...	1849—1854
A. MacIvor	...	...	1854—1859
John Pickering	...	...	1859—1864
J. O. Dayson	...	...	1864—1897
Arthur Tait	...	...	1897—

Reading Room, Library, and Lectures.

TERMS:—

			Per Annum.
			£ s. d.
Members and Subscribers	...	...	0 15 0
Apprentices and Persons receiving Weekly Wages	...	...	0 12 0
Persons under 18 years of age	...	...	0 8 0
Ladies	...	...	0 10 0
Ladies, if the Wives, Daughters, Mothers, or Sisters of Members or Subscribers resident in the same family	...	...	0 5 0
Yearly Subscribers to the Reading Room only, whose residence is four miles distant from the Institution	...	...	0 5 0
Proprietary Member's Ticket, which may be disposed of, £2 at entrance.			
Employer's Ticket, admitting one of the Firm, and eight persons employed			5 0 0

THE INSTITUTE HALLS

May be hired for Meetings, Concerts, Banquets, &c.

TERMS:—

	£	s.	d.
The Albert Hall (Evening Engagement, to 10.30 o'clock)	5	0	0
<i>After 10.30 p.m. a charge of 4s. per hour will be made for Electric Light or Gas.</i>			
*The Albert Hall (Day Engagement, between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.)	3	3	0
If taken by the same party for the same object for the Day, as well as Evening	7	2	0
The Albert Hall for Charitable or Religious purposes	3	16	0
If taken by the same party for the same object for the Day, as well as Evening <i>Including Electric Light and Cleaning.</i>	5	6	0
The Lower Hall	2	2	0
<i>Gas and Cleaning, 5s. per night.</i>			
Tables and Seats, Use of Boiler, Kitchen, and Water	1	1	0

If taken for Three or more consecutive days, Discount of Twenty-five per cent. will be allowed.

The Rooms will be let only on Condition that they be open to inspection by the Committee at all times, and that the fees be prepaid.

Applications to be made to

THE SECRETARY,

The Leeds Institute of Science, Art, and Literature,

COOKRIDGE STREET, LEEDS.

* Hall decorated in 1901 from Designs prepared by the Leeds School of Art Staff.
Inspection invited.



THE ALBERT HALL.

GOODALL AND SUDDICK, LTD., Printers, Cookridge Street, Leeds.
